

STREET SMART

June 4, 2003

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Meeting Summary of the SANBAG Board of Directors

San Bernardino Associated Governments ■ 472 N. Arrowhead Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92401 ■ (909) 884-8276
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■ Board confirms selection criteria for federal requests

Board members reviewed the criteria used to seek annual federal funding for transportation projects and reaffirmed its list of projects for the 2004 appropriations cycle.

The discussion reiterated SANBAG's role of identifying projects with the greatest need for the region and to maintain a list that would be as realistic as possible. Earlier this year, Board members approved a list of interchange and grade separation (bridges over or under railroad crossings) projects for which federal transportation funding would be sought in 2004. The list included 15 projects totaling \$75 million. The criteria for inclusion on the list was "vehicle delay time," the hours that motorists spend waiting at interchanges or rail crossings. One interchange and one grade separation -- each with lengthy delay times -- were chosen for each congressional district. Staff adopted this criteria in an attempt to keep the list from becoming too lengthy, given that only \$11.6 million was awarded in the 2003 appropriation.



At the meeting, Board members heard an appeal from the City of Rialto to add the Riverside Avenue interchange with Interstate 10 to the list of projects. After debating the matter, members voted 22-6 to retain the original list. However, SANBAG expressed continued support for the Riverside Avenue project, for which funding is being sought in the new six-year Transportation Equity Act. Executive Director Norm King also reminded all of the cities that SANBAG is prepared to write letters of support for any of the projects included in the new TEA appropriations list.

■ Metrolink Riverside Line to celebrate 10 years of service

Happy birthday to you ... Metrolink's Riverside Line, which includes the East Ontario Station, turns 10 years old this month. Metrolink, SANBAG and Riverside County Transportation Commission staff and elected officials will greet morning riders on June 16 with pastries, coffee and the chance to win prizes.

The Riverside Line opened on June 15, 1993, with the East Ontario Station in operation. Last fall, \$3.2 million in station improvements were completed to add parking spaces, landscaping and decorative structures. This line serves about 4,000 passengers each weekday.

At the East Ontario Station, riders will have the opportunity to win a monthly boarding pass, small scale electric train set or a \$30 Metrolink gift store certificate on each of the five morning trains.



■ Alexander, Biane elected to lead SANBAG Board for 03-04

SANBAG Board members unanimously elected Rancho Cucamonga Mayor Bill Alexander as president and San Bernardino County Supervisor Paul Biane as vice president for the term starting in July and ending in June of next year.

Alexander has served as Rancho Cucamonga's mayor since 1994, after serving for six years as a councilmember. In addition to being SANBAG's vice president during 2002-03, Alexander has been a member of the Administrative, Major Projects, Commuter Rail, Alameda Corridor East and Measure I committees. He also is chairman of the Metrolink Board of Directors.

Biane was elected to the county's Board of Supervisors last November, following eight years as a member of the Rancho Cucamonga City Council. He is a member of SANBAG's Major Projects, Administrative, Plans & Programs, Mountain/Desert and Measure I committees. As vice president, he will chair the Administrative Committee.

Down the Road ...

- June 11: Administrative Committee, 9 a.m.
- June 12: Major Projects Committee, 9 a.m.
- June 16: Metrolink 10-Year Anniversary Event at East Ontario Station, Early Trains
- June 18: Plans & Programs Committee, 12 noon
- June 19: Route 210 Ground Breaking Ceremony, 10 a.m., Casmalia and Locust Avenues, Rialto
- June 20: Mountain-Desert Committee, 9 a.m.
- June 25: Measure I Lunch for City and Chamber Representatives, 11:30 a.m., Rancho Cucamonga

Riverside Construction receives first Route 210 - Rialto contract

Work is expected to start July 1

SANBAG awarded its first construction contract for the extension of State Route 210 in Rialto to Riverside Construction, the lowest responsible bidder from a field of nine firms.

Riverside's bid of \$13,599,376 was only \$36,000 less than the second low bidder, KEC Engineering, and very close to SANBAG's engineer's estimate of \$13,682,239. Bids were opened May 29.



The contract award marks the start of construction of the final eight miles of the Foothill Freeway, which will extend through Rialto and San Bernardino. Twenty miles of the project, also known as State Route 210, have been completed in Fontana, Rancho Cucamonga, Upland, Claremont and La Verne, and are open to drivers. An average of 110,000 vehicles travel the freeway each day near the San Bernardino/Los Angeles county line.

Riverside Construction was one of the contractors of Route 210 through Rancho Cucamonga.

Dubbed as "early work" in Rialto, the contract will cover approximately one year and will include:

- Drainage improvements between Highland and Casmalia Avenues, from Sierra Avenue to Spruce.
- The extension of Cedar Avenue south to Easton Avenue. Currently Cedar stretches only as far as Highland Avenue.
- The construction of six sound walls between Spruce and Willow Avenues -- three north and three south of the freeway.
- The construction of the Ayala Avenue freeway overcrossing (bridge). This will require a full closure of Ayala between November and next July.
- The widening of Highland Avenue between Spruce and Willow from two to four lanes.

Caltrans is preparing contract documents for its low bidder for another segment of the freeway that the state agency will build in Rialto. This early contract will include the continued widening of Casmalia Avenue and bridge construction at Locust and Linden Avenues.

State Route 210 is SANBAG's largest Measure I project. Adopted by voters in 1989, Measure I is the county's half-cent sales tax for transportation. Combined with state and federal funds, Measure I has helped finance Route 210 and



other freeway, street, Metrolink, transit and other transportation improvements countywide. Since the measure was adopted, more than \$878 million has been generated, including \$384 million for major freeway projects.

SANBAG, Caltrans to break ground for State Route 210 in Rialto on June 19

Break out the gold shovels and hard hats ...

SANBAG and Caltrans, aided by the cities of Rialto and Fontana, will host a ground breaking ceremony on June 19 in Rialto.



The 10 a.m. ceremony will take place outdoors at the corner of Locust and Casmalia Avenues to mark the start of work on the freeway in Rialto.

Ceremony highlights will include the Rialto Police Department Color Guard, a performance by the Kolb-Kucera Middle School Bands, presentations by local officials and the reading of winning essays about the new freeway by Trapp Elementary School fifth graders.

Following the presentations, dignitaries and other interested parties will don hard hats and take turns lifting shovels of dirt to ceremoniously mark the beginning of construction in the city. Construction vehicles will be on display, and visitors may obtain maps and brochures.

To date, corporate sponsors include Fluor Corporation, LAN Engineering Corporation, LSA Associates, Riverside Construction, Robertson's Ready Mix, Burrtec Waste Industries and West Valley Water District.